

## LOCAL AGENCY COMPLIANCE

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*When the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the State Legislature in 1979, it set a new standard for land protection policies and guidelines in Southern California. A report on the local government signatories to the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan is made annually, with respect to those local agencies' actions to implement the Plan.*

*In recognition of the Plan's importance and value, both the City and County of Los Angeles, the City of Thousand Oaks, and the County of Ventura adopted resolutions that year containing commitments to implement the Plan. The past year compliance of each of these jurisdictions is addressed below.*

### *City of Thousand Oaks*

The City of Thousand Oaks' strong record of adherence to the Comprehensive Plan continued throughout fiscal year 2001-2002. The City continues to maximize its acquisition of open space and to minimize the footprint of development projects. The Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency, the joint powers agency formed by the City and the Conejo Recreation and Park District, also continues to manage thousands of acres of open space in a manner consistent with the Plan.

### *County of Los Angeles*

Over the last fiscal year, the level of County of Los Angeles compliance with the Comprehensive Plan has never been greater. The Regional Planning staff increasingly understands and anticipates the planning principles represented in the Plan. The greater role of the County's biologist in the Impact Analysis Section of Regional Planning is one of the main factors for this increased awareness and level of response in environmental impact analyses. The overly visible siting and design characteristics of many new larger single family homes is a problem neither addressed by the Plan or by the relevant elements of the County General Plan.



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### *County of Ventura*

Regulatory actions regarding land use within unincorporated Ventura County are generally consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and with the resolution adopted by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in 1979.

Prior years' concerns have lessened somewhat regarding incremental single family residential development in the upper reaches of the Little Sycamore Canyon watershed, adjacent to Point Mugu State Park, since the pace of land divisions has been reduced. However, this regionally significant watershed is still an area of concern; the County's project review must better address cumulative visual impacts and overdraft of groundwater supply.

In early 2002, the County Board of Supervisors formed the Ventura County Open Space District Advisory Committee to (1) determine if a measure should be presented to the voters of the county to establish an open space and agricultural land preservation district, (2) determine priorities for land preservation and restoration, and (3) determine an effective and appropriate funding mechanism for the district.



*Rolling Oaks*

### *City of Los Angeles*

City of Los Angeles compliance with the Comprehensive Plan has been exemplary with the notable exception of projects located within the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan area. The Plan provides for maximizing the protection of scenic resources within the Mulholland Scenic Corridor. An ongoing issue of concern is implementation of the Specific Plan and carrying forward the recommendations of the Mulholland Design Review Board.

